

his patients. At the same time, he may be a member of a minute percentage of the total who will grasp at straws in cases which have eluded his successful treatment under older drug items.

The thalidomide and chloramphenicol situations have drawn considerable interest in recent years. One has been denied access to the American market and the other has been placed under strict regulation as to information and promotion. Paradoxically, thalidomide was never cleared for distribution in this country but its side effects, when used for purposes not originally contemplated, were sufficiently convincing to bring about the enactment of the new federal statutes.

It is natural that any new laws which carry restrictive provisions will be opposed by those whom they affect, even though such opposition may be on minute technical grounds. Regulations written to implement the law may be drawn too tight and may impose requirements which are oppressive and with-

out the prospect of benefit to anyone. At the same time, free-wheeling in drug production and marketing must be restricted in the interests of the consuming public.

The Food and Drug Administration has apparently taken steps to resolve the areas of conflict which immediately came into being with the new law and its regulations. The appointment of a medical director so recently immersed in clinical practice proves that this post is not being farmed out to the ivory tower. The restoration of a drug to the market in the light of its usefulness outweighing its dangers is another step that indicates a sound basis as prevalent in the department.

To Joe Sadusk in his new and exceptionally important post, the medical profession throughout the country, and in California in particular, offers its best wishes for a most successful and meaningful career. His choice for this vital position is eminently suitable.

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## A New Dean At USC

TO ANYONE facing the trying task of finding a suitable replacement for an able and valuable executive officer who has resigned, it must be gratifying indeed to announce appointment of a successor who seems splendidly equipped by training and by personal aspect to carry on with the success his predecessor knew.

We can assume that Dr. Norman Topping, president of the University of Southern California, felt gratification in that circumstance when he named Dr. Roger O. Egeberg to the deanship of the USC School of Medicine to replace Dr. Clayton G. Loosli who had resigned to become medical director of the Hastings Foundation, an affiliate of the school.

We believe Dr. Loosli will carry success with him to his new job. We as strongly believe that the personality and the experience in private practice, in research, in medical administration and in public service (see page 147) that Dr. Egeberg brings with him to the deanship make him a happy choice for head of the faculty at USC School of Medicine.